

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 24539 201359Z

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4601

INFO CINCPAC HONO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24539

CINCPAC ALFO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN, FOREIGN MINISTER) PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF CHATCHAI'S PARTY

REF: A. STATE 273627; B. BANGKOK 24337

1. IN ADDITION TO THE MEMBERS OF CHATCHAI'S PARTY LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 2, REF B. CHATCHAI PLANS TO TAKE HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, KORN DABBARANSI (KON THAPPARANSI) (WHO IS ALSO HIS NEPHEW); HIS ASSISTANT PRIVATE SECRETARY, KAMTHORN RACHROCH (KAMTHON LATCHAROT) (A THAI NATION PARTY MP FROM PATTANI PROVINCE); WORAPUTHI JAYANAMA (WORAPHUT CHAIYANAM), CHIEF, AMERICA DIVISION, MFA; AND TEJ BUNNAG (TET BUNNAK), CHIEF, EAST ASIA DIVISION, MFA.

2. WE WOULD HOPE THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY PROGRAM FOR CHATCHAI IN WHICH THESE FOUR WILL BE INCLUDED, SENIOR OFFICERS OF EA MIGHT FIND IT POSSIBLE TO GIVE A SEPARATE LUNCHEON FOR THESE INDIVIDUALS. WORAPHUT, IN PARTICULAR, IS KEENLY INVOLVED IN ALL MFA ACTIVITIES RELATING TO OUR IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RTG, ESPECIALLY OVER THE U.S. MILITARY WITHDRAWAL.

3. WE DO NOT KNOW PRECISELY WHY GENERAL SAIYUT KOETPHON AND AIR MARSHAL SIT SAWETASILA ARE ACCOMPANYING CHATCHAI BUT WILL SEEK FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS. CHATCHAI HAS REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR TO US HIS DESIRE TO ESTABLISH
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 24539 201359Z

MFA'S PRIMACY IN RTG SECURITY PLANNING AND MATTERS

RELATING TO THE THAI-U.S. MILITARY COOPERATION. HE MAY HAVE INCORPORATED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SUPREME COMMAND AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL IN SUBORDINATE ROLES IN THIS DELEGATION AS A MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE MFA PRIMACY HE SEEKS.

4. WE ALSO HAVE SOME EVIDENCE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER OR THE THAI MILITARY PUT SAIYUT AND SIT ON THE DELEGATION BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO KEEP CHATCHAI "HONEST" AND WANTED AN INDEPENDENT REPORT OF WHAT TRANSPIRED IN THE WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS. IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT CHATCHAI BELIEVES THEY ARE GOING FOR ONE REASON, AND THEY KNOW THEY ARE GOING FOR ANOTHER.

5. AT ANY EVENT, WE BELIEVE THAT SAIYUT'S AND SIT'S PRESENCE GREATLY STRENGTHENS THE DELEGATION AND GIVES THE SECRETARY AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE U.S. VIEW SIMULTANEOUSLY TO SEVERAL QUARTERS OF THE RTG.
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